

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF SPECIAL DECEMBER 3, 2011 MEETING

In Attendance:

Alan Baker
Albert Grant
Barbara Sherman
Tom Talamini

John Burnham
Jim Halloran
Dick Sherman

Joanne Drapeau
Gil Hayes
Dick Sullivan

Ken Francis
Lois Noble
Deb Talamini

Absent:

John Drake

Al Floyd

Attending: Charline Baker, Barbara Burnham, Sue Gaffney, Sharon Francis

CALL TO ORDER: 4:15 PM

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: 5.f CL&P Grants

MINUTES of November 17, 2011 MEETING: Approved.

ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – No report.
- b. River Review / Water testing – View of river from upper trail showed quite a few trees down. South Windsor now has sample bottles and will start testing this month. East Windsor now will add Reservoir Pond, Chestnut Brook, Broad Brook at East Road, and Ketch Brook locations.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Melrose Bridge – D.E.E.P. has approved use of telephone poles for bridges. Member John Drake and Town's Len Norton both have sources for poles.
- d. Window decals – No additional sales this month.
- e. December 3rd work party – 14 attended and split into 2 groups, one working on south end to Norton property line; the other from north worked clearing and marking trail to the Scout bridge. 2 New trailhead signs placed at each end. Then group went to Route 140 property (formerly Owned by Hensel family) and did some cutting of downed trees. 2 Trees taken care of at Route 140 launch area.
- f. AHRC Educational Extension – Member Alan Baker stated there is ongoing interest but no involvement as of yet.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. January Work Party – Scheduled for 1/7 to meet at 8:30AM at Burnham barn. Project to get started on trails in State Park,.
- b. Plans for our trails – Scantic River State Park bridges will need 4 poles to carry weight of a horse since it will be a multi-use recreational area. Perhaps an ATV will be needed to drag poles to site of bridges.

- c. After work party today, area should be ready for January 1st 2nd annual hike. First Selectman will be asked to seek permission from Norton family for one day access to their property. If it is granted, additional work on that portion of the "trail" will be needed. Target for that would then be the week between Christmas and New Year's. Publicity on the hike will need to go out. Start time of hike to be 1PM.
 - d. Reminder that election of officers will take place at January 19th meeting,
 - e. Goals for upcoming year: 1. To have Scantic River State Park trails ready for spring use; 2. To maintain work efforts already done on trails throughout the year; 3. To get signs posted on river identifying locations; 4. To go south on Scantic River to South Windsor Line.
 - f. Member Alan Baker reported there were 2 CL&P grants for which our Commission might qualify; one under conservation category was due for submission by 1/24 with response by April. Discussion followed, with consensus that, since there are 4 opportunities and only one application per organization is allowed per year, we take the time to do it the best we can.
7. Public input: none

ADJOURNMENT: 4:40pm.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 12/05/2011